

Dear Veterans, Military Families and Supporters,

Please find a number of resources below to benefit veterans and military families. They are not endorsed by my office, just a compilation of programs and services that come across my desk. The annual Howard County Veteran Resource Fair flier is attached and we ask that you share it with your network. Please feel free to share and vet according to your needs. If you have anything you would like me to share, please forward it. Thank you.

Lisa Terry

## **Howard County Veteran Resource Fair** – April 4, 2017 from 5-8pm

The Howard County Department of Community Resources and Services and its Office of Veterans and Military Families will host a Veterans Resource Fair on Tuesday, April 4 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Ellicott City 50+ Center, 9401 Frederick Road in Ellicott City. While geared towards veterans living in Howard County, all veterans and their families (active, guard, reserve, dependents) are invited to attend. Admission is free.

The fair will offer attendees the opportunity to talk face-to-face with more than 41 businesses, organizations and nonprofits dedicated to providing services, support and jobs to veterans. Representatives from the following organizations will be on hand:

- American Legion
- Baltimore County/Annapolis Vet Center
- Community Action Council
- Dept. of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
- Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR)
- Give An Hour
- Heroes on the Water
- Hiring Our Heroes, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Howard Community College
- Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families
- The Howard County Veterans Foundation, Inc.
- Howard County Health Department
- Howard County Dept. of Housing and Community Development
- Howard County Office on Aging and Independence
- Howard County Office of Human Rights
- Howard County Office of Workforce Development
- Maryland Access Point
- Making Change Financial Wellness
- Maryland Corps Career Connect
- Maryland Department. of Housing and Community Development
- Marine Corps League

Maryland Humanities Council  
Maryland Legal Aid  
Maryland Department of Veteran Affairs (MDVA)  
Maryland's Commitment to Veterans  
Mobile Vet Center Readjustment Counseling  
National Alliance on Mental Illness  
National Guard State Family Program  
Neighbor Ride  
Rebuilding Together Howard County  
Serving Together  
Team RWB  
US Dept. of Veteran Affairs – eBenefits Enrollment  
VA Maryland Health Care System  
VA Office of Disadvantaged and Small Business Utilization (DSBU)  
Veteran Artist Program  
Veterans History Project  
The Veterans Consortium, Pro Bono Program  
Veteran Resource Podcast  
Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)  
Winter Growth  
And businesses recruiting veterans for employment

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will offer on the spot eBenefits registration and claim status; the Library of Congress (LOC) will be on site to conduct interviews for the Veterans History Project. If you know a veteran who has a story to tell, contact the LOC at (202) 707-1819 or [Ahub@loc.gov](mailto:Ahub@loc.gov) to make an interview appointment. Volunteers interested in conducting the interviews (using a provided script) are encouraged to contact the LOC as well.

Breakout sessions will include a Federal Resume Workshop, an overview of Howard County Office on Aging and Independence/Maryland Access Point programs, and a Q&A with MDVA Veteran Benefits Specialist, Keida Massey Murray, who works in the Howard County MultiService Center. County resident and author, Tom Glenn, will share his experience with PTSI while serving in Vietnam as an undercover NSA employee.

For more information about the Resource Fair or the Commission for Veterans and Military Families, contact Lisa Terry at 410-313-0821 (voice/relay). To request a sign language interpreter or other accommodations to participate in this event, call one week in advance.

### ***Employment and Educational Opportunities***

- [Marching Our Veterans Back to Work](#) – Farmers Insurance has donated 1000 suits for transitioning service members and veterans – March 18, 10am-2pm

- [Howard County Workforce IT Hiring Fair for Jobseekers](#) – March 29, 10am-1pm
- [Howard County Workforce IT Recruitment Fair for Businesses](#) – March 29, 10am-1pm
- [Local Job Listings](#)
- [ManTech has 300+ jobs in MD/DC/VA](#)
- [Human Resources related scholarships - \\$150,000](#)
- [Turf Valley Resort Job Fair](#) - Mar 10 @ 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm in the Terrace on the Green, located in our Administrative Wing
- [Dir of Development, Blue Star Families](#)
- [Free Amazon.com Web Support Training](#) for Veterans and Military Spouses – take [this survey](#) if you are interested
- Youth Job Fair Vendors Needed –April 1, 10am-2pm Long Reach HS  
[Vendor Letter](#) and [Vendor Registration](#)

## ***Resources***

- **One New phone number to access VA services** - VA is introducing 1-844-MyVA311 (1-844-698-2311) as a go-to source for Veterans and their families who don't know what number to call. This new national toll-free number will help eliminate the feeling of frustration and confusion that Veterans and their families have expressed when navigating the 1000-plus phone numbers that currently exist. With 1-844-MyVA311, Veterans, families, and caregivers can access information about VA services like disability, pension, healthcare eligibility, enrollment, and burial benefits, in addition to a self-service locator to find the nearest VA facility. And if they're looking for immediate assistance with housing or are having a mental health crisis, MyVA311 will route callers to the Homeless Veteran help line and the Veterans Crisis Line. If you know what number you're calling – keep calling it. None of the existing VA numbers will go away. The future vision is that 1-844-MyVA311 will become a 24/7 one-stop information service platform for all VA services.
- [Vet Arts Connect](#) - Vet Arts Connect places and connects Maryland military veterans with opportunities to engage in the creative arts and outdoor recreation. Studies show these experiences can enhance veterans' well-being and overall health. [Flier](#)
- [MDVA Newsletter, March 3](#) –Events, programs, free services, scholarships for veterans and their families and more.

- [50+ Newsletter](#), March – Resources for 50+ Community
- [Senior Living News](#)
- [The Veterans Real Estate Advantage program](#) - Help those who served our country and YOU can enjoy cash back at settlement. And a \$500 donation to the USO!
- [Good news for military spouses](#) – Elimination of 2-year eligibility limitation for noncompetitive appointment of spouses of members of the Armed Force. No time limitation on appointment.
- [Charlotte Hall Veterans Home Fact Sheet](#)
- [VA Mobile Appointment Request](#)

### **Events**

- Flag [Ceremony to honor local veteran](#) – **March 9** at 5:30pm. VFW Post 7472 invites the community to participate in the raising and lowering to half-mast, the US Flag and US Marine Corps colors in honor of LCpl James Walden, a Marine from the Marine Corps Cryptologic Support Battalion at Fort Meade, who was recently killed in a motorcycle accident. There will be a formation in front of the VFW Hall, Ellicott City
- VA Maryland Health Care System Virtual Town Hall – **March 9** from 3-4pm. Please join us at [Facebook.com/MDVAHCS](https://www.facebook.com/MDVAHCS)
- [Business and Networking Group](#) - Tuesday, **March 14** - 6:00 to 8:30 PM “Careers in an American BREXIT economy: Economic growth and jobs, but for whom?” Registration: 6:00 – 6:30 PM
- [Marching Our Vets Back to Work](#) – **March 18**, Free suits for veterans
- **Tower Federal Credit Union Home Buying Free Seminars –**  
 Home Buying Basics - Tuesday, **March 14** 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m., Laurel Branch  
 Home Buying & Selling Basics - Wednesday, **April 5** 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.,  
 Arundel Mills  
[Register to Attend a FREE Real Estate Seminar](#)  
 If you prefer to use a web-based e-mail service, please send us an e-mail at [RESeminar@towerfcu.org](mailto:RESeminar@towerfcu.org) or call us at 301-497-7000 or 800-787-8328, ext. 7218 to register for a seminar. In the case of inclement weather, please contact us for cancellation or rescheduling information.

- [Joint Vet Committee Annual Day](#) in Annapolis – **March 22**, 10am -2pm
- [Fort Meade Technical Job Fair](#) – March 22 [Free Resume Doctor at the Fair](#)
- **Flag Retirement Ceremony – March 25**, 12pm at VFW in Ellicott City, sponsored by American Legion Post #156 and Columbia #300, Marine Corps League and VFW Post #7472. Ceremonial participants muster at 1130hrs by the Fire Pit. Working Party report by 1000hrs. Flags collected in the last several days will be properly retired. Since Nov 2015, more than 1500 flags have been properly retired in large part, due to the Flag Collection Container at the Alpha Ridge Landfill.
- Third Annual Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Celebration - **March 30**, 4pm-8pm, Martin's Crosswinds 7400 Greenway Center Drive Greenbelt, MD 20770 [Tickets are Required - Register Here](#)
- [Free Training & Legal Clinic](#) – **March 30**, 10:15-5pm, Univ of Baltimore School of Law. Free lunch providede
- [Maryland Veteran Creative Arts Festival](#) – **April 1**, 1pm Art Show Opening, 2pm Stage Show - The Bowie Performing Arts Center
- [GI Film Festival](#) – **May 24-28** – Volunteers and sponsors welcome!

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***The Department of Community Resources and Services provides vital human services through its offices of ADA Coordination, Aging and Independence, Children and Families, Community Partnerships, Consumer Protection, Local Children's Board, and Veterans and Military Families.***

***The Howard County Office of Veterans and Military Families (OVMF) provides guidance, information and access to the more than 20,000 veterans who live in Howard County, as well as their dependents and survivors, and military families. The OVMF also promotes activities for veterans of all ages and collaborates with other service providers to address more complex issues.***

**Howard County Commission on Veterans and Military Families** <https://www.howardcountymd.gov/vetcomm>

**Department of Community Resources and Services Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/HoCoCommunity/>

**Commission on Veterans and Military Families Facebook**  
<https://www.facebook.com/HocoMilitary/>

**Reserved Veteran Parking Initiative**

Honor veterans living and working in Howard County by installing a Reserved Veteran Parking sign at your place of business or in honor of a loved one.

[http://www.howardchamber.com/chamber\\_information/veteran\\_parking\\_sign\\_initiative.aspx](http://www.howardchamber.com/chamber_information/veteran_parking_sign_initiative.aspx)